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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

PCT/EP2003/013378

Applicant

BOUCHAIN, Jerome et al.

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27 November 2003

Art Unit

N/A

Examiner

N/A

Docket No. :

S3-02P16225

Customer No.:

24131

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Preliminary to examination kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.